

MINUTES OF MEETING OF BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS OF MARCH 14, 1940

The Board of Public Works met in the office of the Governor, State House, Annapolis, Maryland, on Thursday, March 14, 1940.

Present:

Herbert R. O'Connor, Governor  
J. Millard Tawes, Comptroller  
Hooper S. Miles, Treasurer.

Mr. Walter N. Kirkman, Director of the Department of Budget and Procurement, was also present.

CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT:

The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board a communication from the Conservation Department in which approval was requested to the expenditure of the sum of \$198.00 out of the budget of the Department for the current fiscal year for the erecting of additional metal partitions in the offices of the Department on the third floor in the new State Office Building, Annapolis, as outlined in the proposal of the Wm. E. Gambrill & Company, dated January 15, 1940.

The Board approved the request of the Conservation Department.

COMMISSIONER OF MOTOR VEHICLES:

The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board a request from the office of the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles that authority be given to the writing off as uncollectible, the following items:

April 22, 1935	Arthur Garden	192	\$10.00
" " "	" "	186	10.00
Dec. 16, 1935	Harold West	197	100.00
" " "	" "	194	10.00
June 9, 1936	Zack Parker	209	5.00
Nov. 20, 1937	Joe Puckett	194	1.00.

After reviewing the reasons submitted as to why it would be impossible to effect collection of the above items, the Board approved the request that the amounts be written off as uncollectible.

COURT OF APPEALS BUILDING:

See - State Office Building, of these minutes.

DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND PROCUREMENT:

The Secretary called attention to the fact that Mr. Kirkman, Director of the Department of Budget and Procurement, had prepared a list of surplus property, in accordance with the suggestion of the Board at a previous meeting, and that this list had been distributed to the various Agencies of the State for the purpose of effecting transfer of this property from departments not having need of it to other departments where it might possibly be used to advantage.

EASTERN SHORE STATE HOSPITAL:

The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board a communication from the Superintendent of the Eastern Shore State Hospital, Dr. Charles V. Taylor, requesting authority for certain extra work to be done in connection with the work of alterations and additions to the Administration Building, now in progress at the institution.

The additional work, at prices outlined in Dr. Taylor's letter was approved.

LEASES: Baltimore Offices.

The Board approved leases submitted by the Union Trust Company for offices occupied by various State Departments in that building, as follows:

Rooms 701 and 702; Rooms 501-512, inclusive, being the entire fifth floor; Rooms 1001-1012, inclusive, being the entire tenth floor; Rooms 901-911, inclusive, located on the ninth floor.

This space being leased, with the exception of the ninth floor, for a period of 33 months, beginning January 2, 1940, at a rental of \$1,041.66 per month in advance; the space on the ninth floor being for 32 months, beginning February 1, 1940, at a rental of \$416.66 per month, in advance.

MARYLAND COMMISSION ON NEW YORK WORLD'S FAIR:

The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board a communication from Mr. Warren T. King, Director of the Maryland Commission on New York World's Fair, advising that a report will be made at an early date on the expenditure of the appropriation for Maryland's participation in the New York World's Fair. Mr. King indicated there would be a balance of \$753.58, in addition to the \$278.45 remaining to the credit of the account on the State's books.

In his letter Mr. King stated that the time is approaching when a definite decision should be made as to whether the State of Maryland will renew its contract with the World's Fair, and show its exhibit the second year.

The Board felt it was impossible to give any consideration to continuing the State's exhibit because of lack of funds for the payment of expenses for continuing the exhibit.

MARYLAND STATE POLICE:

Col. Beverly Ober, Superintendent of Maryland State Police, appeared before the Board and submitted two letters, both dated March 12th, 1940; one, urging the Board to approve the necessary funds for the installation, maintenance and operation of a teletype system, and the other, outlining proposed amendment to the budget of the Maryland State Police. Col. Ober explained, in detail, the letter relative to the budget amendment and stated he did not feel it necessary to repeat what he had said before in connection with the teletype system, but that the need for the system seemed to be greater than ever, at this time.

The Governor took the matter of the budget amendment under advisement, since it is within his province to approve budget amendment for the Maryland State Police.

It was felt that no further consideration could be given to the request for the teletype system because of the amount of money it would require to install, maintain and operate it, although it was felt that the system would be very desirable.

MARYLAND TUBERCULOSIS SANATORIUM:

The Comptroller brought to the attention of the Board a letter from Dr. Paul Cohen, Superintendent of the Eastern Shore Branch of the Maryland Tuberculosis Sanatorium, recommending refund of \$3.00 to Mrs. Elizabeth Tilghman Smack for board paid in advance for Miss Beulah Smack, a patient at the institution, who died before the end of the period for which board was paid.

A refund of the amount, \$3.00, was approved by the Board.

MILITARY DEPARTMENT:

General Milton A. Reckord appeared before the Board in connection with several matters in which the Military Department is interested.

General Reckord stated that it was important that the matter of site for the Annapolis Armory be given consideration without further delay since it would be necessary for the Annapolis Company to be moved from the rooms in the basement of the State House, which the Company is now using for drills and the storage of its equipment, before the next meeting of the General Assembly. Further, Gen. Reckord stated that he was afraid to defer any longer efforts to secure W.P.A. assistance which he thought would be available at this time but which might not be available later. Gen. Reckord recommended the Constitution Avenue site for the new Armory.

After discussion, as to this site, the Board agreed to approve the recommendation made by Gen. Reckord and authorized him to proceed with the acquisition of it and the going ahead with the plans and specifications for the erection of the new Armory. Gen. Reckord agreed to keep the Board advised of the progress being made by him and to submit to the Board his recommendation as to construction after bids had been received for the work.

The Board had previously approved Gen. Reckord's request that Mr. Henry Powell Hopkins be retained for the preparation of plans and specifications, and supervision of the work. It was agreed to extend this approval to include Mr. Laurence Hall Fowler, whom Mr. Hopkins desires to be associated with him in the work.

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Gen. Reckord stated that he has been successful in getting an allotment of \$50,000 of Federal Funds for use in connection with the construction of a hangar for the Airport, which amount, supplemented by appropriation of \$100,000 in the General Bond Issue of 1939 for this work, will permit construction of the hangar and such additional administration building as money will provide. Gen. Reckord stated that whatever work would be done would be completed and would not leave the hangar or administration building unfinished, but that the Department's plans do call for more construction than could be taken care of with the \$150,000 available at this time. Gen. Reckord stated that any further construction would have to be authorized later, but that he would request additional funds by the time the next construction program is being considered.

It was stated that the Attorney General will approve a lease covering the land owned by the City on which the construction will be done. A proposed lease was submitted. Gen. Reckord was authorized to have the Attorney General proceed with the negotiations for the execution of the lease.

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Gen. Reckord took up the question of a Naval Militia Armory. He stated that a section of the land on which he proposes to build the Armory is subject to a ground rent and that the Attorney General recommends the acquisition of the ground rent, which might cost as much as \$20,000. The General suggested that the balance, \$80,000, be used for construction as far as it would go for a complete building, with further construction to depend upon funds to be appropriated later. Gen. Reckord requested authority to select an architect for the preparation of plans and specifications for the Armory. The Board stated it would give this matter consideration and advise Gen. Reckord of its decision later. It was agreed that the City should proceed to condemn the ground rent, if necessary, to acquire it, and that Gen. Reckord should secure all the W.P.A. funds possible.

Gen. Reckord and Mr. Kirkman discussed request made by Gen. Reckord for authority to spend \$5,000 of the \$55,000 appropriated to the Military Department in the February 15, 1940 installment of the General Bond Issue of 1939, for supplies. It was stated that this amount was understood to be for supplies at the time it was included in the Bond Issue allotment, and that this was necessary because it was not possible to increase the appropriation to the Military Department, because of the Budget having been submitted to the Legislature and reached the point where it was not practical to take care of this additional amount for the Department.

#### MORGAN STATE COLLEGE:

Dr. Ivan E. McDougale, Dr. D. O. W. Holmes and Mr. Carl Murphy appeared before the Board in connection with the Scholarship Fund available to negro students for education in institutions elsewhere, it not being possible to provide this education to the students at Morgan State College.

Doctors McDougale and Holmes stated that they thought the Board should adopt some policy to govern the use of this money in the future. It was stated that Morgan State College would be able to provide the education which is now being acquired elsewhere and paid for out of the Scholarship Fund, that is to students desiring this education, and it would not be necessary to provide these scholarships elsewhere. However, Morgan State College is not equipped and does not have the facilities to furnish certain courses and that it would be necessary to provide for this to students at some other institution, as in the past.

A statement submitted by Morgan State College indicated that the scholarship grants to students who will complete their courses in --

1940 amount to	\$7,170.00	1942 amount to	\$4,304.00
1941 amount to	\$6,200.00	1943 amount to	\$5,857.00.

It was indicated that a part of the \$30,000 now available for scholarships would be later available to supplement the work being done at Morgan State College, but that for some time to come it would still be necessary to provide funds to take care of the scholarships because of the inability of Morgan State College to have the facilities to furnish the necessary courses.

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The Board approved contract between Morgan State College and Albert I. Cassell, architect, covering services to be rendered by Mr. Cassell as architect in connection with the new dormitory building to be erected at the institution, with the exception that payment for Mr. Cassell's services is to be on the same basis as made to other architects doing work for State institutions, namely 4% of the amount of contract to be awarded to become payable upon the approval by the Board of a contract for the construction of the building, the balance to be paid from time to time during the course of the work.

#### NATIONAL YOUTH ADMINISTRATION:

The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board a communication from Mr. Gilbert A. Crandall, County Supervisor, National Youth Administration for Maryland, requesting permission to use some of the space in one of the Committee Rooms on the ground floor of the State House for the work of the National Youth Administration.

The Board felt that it could not spare the use of any space at this time.

REFUNDS:

The Comptroller brought to the attention of the Board claims for refund of taxes paid in error, and after due consideration authority was given to make the following refunds:

Gardner Music Corporation                      \$3.45  
238 N. Market Street  
Frederick, Maryland.

Calvert Debenture Corporation              \$5,831.14  
and others, as listed in letter  
dated February 26, 1940 from  
Mr. Hugh R. Dowling, Counsel for  
the said corporations.

The refunds are to be paid out of the appropriation of \$25,000.00 for refunds in the Miscellaneous Budget for the fiscal year 1940.

SPRINGFIELD STATE HOSPITAL:

The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board a letter from Dr. K. B. Jones, Superintendent of Springfield State Hospital, requesting authority for certain additional work at the prices indicated in connection with the construction work now in progress at the institution.

The additional work, at the prices indicated, was approved.

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The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board a letter from Dr. Jones, dated February 5th, 1940, advising that Baltimore City declined to continue accepting charges covering parole cases where it has been customary, in the past, for the Hospital to bill the City for fourteen days at \$0.3425 per day for paroled City patients. In this letter Dr. Jones stated that this charge against the City for fourteen days is an old custom but has never applied to county patients and he did not feel there was any justification for the charge, and he recommended that it be discontinued.

The Board approved the recommendation of Dr. Jones.

STATE EMPLOYMENT COMMISSIONER:

The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board a bill submitted by Col. Harry C. Jones, State Employment Commissioner, showing indebtedness to the Daily Record in the amounts of \$49.20 and \$3.75, covering publication in the Daily Record of the amendments to the Merit System Rules.

The Board authorized the payment of these bills out of Expenses for Printing Briefs in State Cases, Miscellaneous Appropriations in the 1940 Budget. \*\*\*

STATE HOUSE - COURT OF APPEALS BUILDING:

The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board several estimates received for repairs to the roofs of the State House and the Court of Appeals Building. The Secretary was requested to confer with Mr. Kirkman, Mr. Kries, and Mr. Cromwell relative to the work to be done and report at a later meeting.

STATE INSURANCE DEPARTMENT:

The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board a communication from the State Insurance Department requesting that they be allowed the sum of \$115.00 to take care of the expense of moving from the Lexington Building to the Union Trust Building, Baltimore, out of the appropriation to the Department for rent in the 1940 budget and

\*\*\* Bills of Daily Record paid March 28, 1940 out of Contingent Fund of Board of Public Works, due to no balance in the Budget for printing of briefs, etc.

the fiscal year 1941 before the appropriation for rent is transferred to the rent account of the Board for State offices in Baltimore City.

The request of the Department was approved.

STATE OFFICE BUILDING:

The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board communication from Mr. Henry Powell Hopkins, architect, submitting bill of the Davis Construction Co. in the amount of \$12,752.60 representing balance due the company under its contract for the construction of the new State Office Building. The Board felt that in view of the fact that there will be some expense accruing to the Davis Construction Co. in connection with doors in the new building which have cracked and which will doubtless have to be replaced, the State should withhold \$2,500.00 of the amount requested to protect itself until the doors have been either replaced or made satisfactory to the State.

The balance of the requisition was approved for payment.

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The bill of Messrs Hopkins and Fowler, architects, for services rendered in the balance amount of \$500.00 was approved for payment.

STATE ROADS COMMISSION:

Major Ezra B. Whitman, Chairman of the State Roads Commission, and Mr. Wm. A. Codd, Chief Auditor, took up with the Board the question of amendments to the budget of the State Roads Commission. After considerable discussion, it was agreed that certain overdrafts in the 1939 budget, existing at September 30, 1939, should be brought forward and charged to comparable budget items in the 1940 budget, and that if any amendment to the 1940 budget should be necessary same would be approved. It was agreed that the Commission would carefully review the 1940 budget and submit, at this time, any amendments necessary to adjust the various budget items, and later that such reviews would be made monthly to determine what budget amendments, if any, were necessary, and should be made to always keep the budget of the State Roads Commission in proper shape so that there would always be funds available to the credit of the respective budget items to take care of payrolls and expense accounts submitted to the Comptroller for payment.

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Major Whitman stated that it had been suggested to the Commission that it might be possible to refund the present outstanding bonds of the State Roads Commission at a considerable saving in money because of the lower rate of interest at which the money is obtainable at this time.

This matter was discussed and it was felt that because of conditions this would be possible and it would be to the State's interest to refund these bonds for the savings which would be effected, which might possibly be in the neighborhood of \$30,000, or more, depending on the rate of interest and the market conditions at the time of offering the new bonds. Major Whitman stated that he did not have any definite proposal from any banker for refunding of the bonds.

The Board suggested that if any definite proposal would be made that the Board would be willing to have the State Roads Commission submit it for consideration.

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The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board communication

from the State Roads Commission dated March 1, 1940 submitting three deeds dated February 27, 1940 and executed by the members of the Commission conveying certain parcels of land, subject to the approval of the Board, to the following named parties:

Peter L. Martin  
J. Richard Reid & Anna E. Reid, his wife  
Russell E. Stouffer.

The deeds were duly approved and executed by the members of the Board.

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The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board communication from the State Roads Commission dated March 4, 1940 wherein the Board was asked whether it would approve execution of a deed from the State Roads Commission to Queen Anne County, conveying in fee simple the land acquired from that county by deed dated October 18, 1921, described as "all that lot or parcel of land lying adjacent to the public landing at Queenstown, being a part of the tract of land known as 'Bolingly'".

In the letter of the State Roads Commission it was stated that the property was acquired for the use of the Peninsula Ferry Corp. which was to have operated a ferry service across the Bay, and that the pier has not been used since the ferry of said corporation discontinued operation. As a consequence, it is now a very definite hazard to the people of Queenstown.

The Board felt it should have more information as to the amount of money spent by the State in improving the property before deciding whether to execute the deed conveying the property to Queen Anne County. The Secretary was requested to get in touch with the Commissioner and obtain information as to how much money was spent by the State on the property.

#### STATE TOBACCO WAREHOUSE:

The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board a bill presented by Mr. George W. Dorsey, Commissioner of Tobacco Marketing, in the amount of \$1,249.98, covering salary at the rate of \$208.33 per month for the month of June 1939 and from October 1, 1939 to February 29, 1940. The Board had previously approved compensation to Mr. Dorsey at the rate of \$2,500 per year, payable out of the budget of the State Tobacco Warehouse, effective from October 1, 1939.

The Board was without information as to why Mr. Dorsey should have requested salary for the month of June 1939, and asked the Secretary to get more information relative to this item.

#### UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND:

The secretary brought to the attention of the Board a letter from Dr. H. C. Byrd, President of the University of Maryland, submitting a statement of uncollectible accounts in the amount of \$2,672.45, which the Board of Regents at its regular meeting on January 19, 1940 approved writing off of their books, subject to the approval of the Board of Public Works.

The request of the University of Maryland was approved.

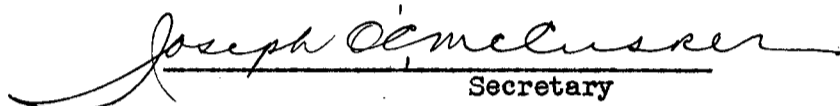
#### WATER RESOURCES COMMISSION:

The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board a file of correspondence received from the State Law Department, wherein attention was called to the request received by the Attorney General from the Chairman of the Water Resources Commission for an opinion as to whether it would be permissible to pay Mr. George L. Hall, Chief Engineer, State Health Department and a member of the Water Resources Commission, compensation for services as secretary of

the Commission. The State Law Department advised the Commission that because the law creating the Commission specifies that the members shall serve without pay, it would not be permissible to compensate Mr. Hall, a member of the Commission, for any service performed by him as Secretary. A letter from Mr. Abel Wolman, Chairman of the Water Resources Commission, to the Attorney General after receiving the opinion of the State Law Department stated that the Commission had authorized him to maintain Mr. Hall in his present capacity since the compensation paid him as Secretary is not for his service as a member of the Commission. The Attorney General felt he should present the facts to the Board for its information.

After due consideration, the Board was of the opinion that there was nothing else to be done except abide by the views of the Attorney General, that it would not be permissible to compensate Mr. Hall, in this case.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

  
Secretary